

Robert Greene Sterne Edward J. Kessler Jorge A. Goldstein David K.S. Cornwell Robert W. Esmond Tracy-Gene G. Durkin Michael B. Ray Robert E. Sokohl Eric K. Steffe Michael Q. Lee Steven R. Ludwig John M. Covert Linda E. Alcorn Robert C. Millonig Lawrence B. Bugaisky Donald J. Featherstone

e Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffrey I. Helvey
Heidi L. Kraus
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowit
Peter A. Jackman
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
virgil Lee Beaston
or Virgil Lee Beaston
Theodore A. Wood
r Elizabeth J. Haanes

Joseph S. Ostroff Frank R. Cottingham Christine M. Lhulier Rea Lynn P. Guest George S. Bardmesser Daniel A. Kleim Jason D. Eisenberg Michael D. Specht Jano B. Winght LuAnne M. DeSantis Ann E. Summerfield Aric W. Ledford* Helene C. Carlson Timotthy A. Doyle* Gaby L. Longsworth Lori A. Gordon*

Nicole D. Dretar Ted J. Ebersole Jyoti C. Iyer* Laura A. Vogel Michael J. Mancuso Registered Patent Ag Karen R. Markowicz

Registered Patent Agents-Karen R. Markowicz Nancy J. Leith Matthew J. Dowd Aaron L. Schwartz Katrina Vujian Pei Quach Bryan L. Skelton Robert A. Schwartzman Teresa A. Colella Jeffrey S. Lundgren Victoria S. Rutherford Mitchelle K. Holoubek Robert H. DeSelms Simon J. Elliott Julie A. Heider Mita Mukherjee Scott M. Woodhouse Michael G. Penn Christopher J. Walsh

<u>Of Counsel</u> Kenneth C. Bass III Evan R. Smith Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland *Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8643 INTERNET ADDRESS: AFERRO@SKGF.COM

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 09/474,127; Filed: December 29, 1999

For: **Axle Driving Apparatus** Inventors: OKADA *et al.*

Our Ref:

0666.023000E/TGD/ALF

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Amendment & Reply Under C.F.R. § 1.111; and
- 2. One (1) post card.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Albert L. Ferro

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 44,679

ALF/bls Enclosures

346730_1.DOC

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW : Washington, DC 20005 : 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540 : www.skgf.com



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

OKADA et al.

Appl. No.: 09/474,127

Filed: December 29, 1999

For: Axle Driving Apparatus

Confirmation No.: 1901

Art Unit: 3611

Examiner: DePumpo, Daniel G.

Atty. Docket: 0666.023000E/TGD/ALF

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated October 19, 2004, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned

under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.